ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

FISHERY UPDATE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



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Petersburg Area Office 16 Sing Lee Ally Petersburg, Alaska 99983 Date: April 8, 2013 Time: 2:00 p.m.

PETERSBURG/WRANGELL HERRING UPDATE #3

The department conducted an aerial survey today, Monday, April 8 of Ernest Sound and vicinity between 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The survey conditions were fair with partly cloudy skies and southeast winds 10 to 20 knots.

Ernest Sound

No herring schools or herring spawn were observed. There was very little change in the Vixen Inlet area with a total of 19 sea lions observed. Of interest was the increase of predator activity in the Union Bay area with 44 sea lions observed along the Union Bay shoreline between Lemesurier Point and Union Point.

There were 28 pound structures observed on the grounds, but no active pounds or active fishing was observed. Department personnel will be stationed in Ernest Sound when herring or herring spawn is observed or when active fishing begins or no later than April 15.

The next aerial survey will occur Wednesday, April 10.

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton

No surveys have occurred in 2013 for the Hobart/Port Houghton area. The first aerial survey is scheduled for the week of April 15.

2013 Herring Summary

Ernest Sound

April 1 Fishery opens for pound fishery.

April 3 1st survey. No herring activity, 45 sea lions.

April 5 No herring activity, 40 sea lions. April 8 No herring activity, 61 sea lions.

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton

April 16 1st scheduled aerial survey.

Pilots and Mariners transiting Ernest Sound or Hobart/Port Houghton are asked to report any herring activity or congregations of sea lions to the Wrangell or Petersburg Fish and Game offices.

Petersburg/Wrangell herring updates will be posted on the ADF&G web site listed below.

News releases web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Hoonah	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801	874-3822	747-6688	465-4250	766-2830		784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	945-3620	784-3220